

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF THE 50TH
ANNIVERSARY OF PEACE CORPS

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2011

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the 50th Anniversary of Peace Corps. Fifty years ago today, Congress passed legislation authorizing Peace Corps, and giving it the mandate to "promote world peace and friendship." Since then, over 200,000 Americans—including myself—have served our great country in the name of peace and friendship.

I am so proud of the 18 Volunteers currently serving from my district. Among them are Tim and Chelsea Tibbs, a husband and wife from Santa Cruz who are serving in Guyana. Chelsea created a Youth Friendly Center at a local health clinic that has been highlighted by the Ministry of Health's Adolescent Unit as one of the best models for successful and targeted programs in the region. And Tim has been working with Guyana's Regional Education Office to develop and implement teacher training modules. But Tim and Chelsea are just a few examples of how the 8,655 current Peace Corps Volunteers serving in nearly 80 countries around the world are changing lives and creating hope.

But Peace Corps also has a strong presence right here in the United States. In 1987, Peace Corps established the Peace Corps Masters International program, an innovative opportunity that enables students to combine a graduate education with Peace Corps service. In my district, the Monterey Institute for International Studies (MIIS) has 76 PCMI students, making it the fourth largest PCMI program in the country! That's an incredible 10% of the MIIS student body that has dedicated their brains and their hearts to realizing America's commitment to peace.

In honor of Peace Corps' 50th Anniversary, MIIS is hosting Monterey Institute and the Peace Corps: Celebrating 50 Years of Global Engagement on October 8th. I am honored to be a part of this inspiring day of panel discussion and movie showings that honor Peace Corps' legacy of service at MIIS.

This is just one of many celebrations around the country and around the world in honor of Peace Corps' first 50 years of service. For a complete list of events, please visit <http://events.peacecorps50.org/>.

I urge my colleagues to honor the past and present Peace Corps Volunteers in their districts, and I hope you will join me in celebrating America's 50-year legacy of service in the name of peace.

A TRIBUTE TO PRINCIPAL STEVE
KWIKKEL

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2011

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Iowa's excellence in education, and to specifically congratulate Waverly-Shell Rock Junior High School Principal Steve Kwikkel of Waverly, Iowa for being named Iowa Middle School Principal of the year by the School Administrators of Iowa.

Mr. Kwikkel's career began as a sixth grade classroom teacher in rural Iowa in 1986. In 1994 Steve earned his master's degree in secondary school administration from the University of Northern Iowa. Steve has made a name for himself serving as an administrator for four schools, most recently joining the team at Waverly-Shell Rock Junior High School in 2002.

Since Steve became principal of Waverly-Shell Rock, the school has enjoyed much acclaim from Steve's commitment to improvements in school transformation, systems thinking, school culture and student achievement. In addition to his achievements at Waverly-Shell Rock Junior High School, Mr. Kwikkel has also served as the Executive Director for the Iowa Association for Middle Level Education and currently leads the Cedar Valley Middle School principal's cadre.

Mr. Speaker, I consider it a great honor to represent a state with such a proud academic tradition. Principal Kwikkel, the teachers, students, and parents of Waverly-Shell Rock should be very proud of what they have accomplished. Their future is certainly bright and I wish Mr. Kwikkel and all of Waverly-Shell Rock Junior High School continued academic excellence as they continue to have a positive impact on the future leaders of our state and country.

RECOGNIZING THE CITY OF
OWENSVILLE ON ITS CENTEN-
NIAL ANNIVERSARY

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2011

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the City of Owensville, located in Gasconade County in Missouri, as the community recently celebrated its centennial anniversary.

What is now the City of Owensville began as an early trail called the Potosi to Boonslick Trail. Spurs from this main trail went to the current city, creating a crossroads that later became the St. Louis to Springfield Road and the St. James to Hermann Road, called the "Iron Road."

The city was originally laid out in 1886 by the Owensville Improvement Company, whose

owner, Frank Owens, is the town's namesake. According to legend, businessman Frank Owens and blacksmith Edward Luster were both vying to be the town's namesake and held a horseshoe pitching contest to determine who would win. Owens won, and Owensville residents believe their city is the only place named as a result of a horseshoe pitching contest. Owensville was incorporated as a fourth-class city on May 27, 1911.

Over the past century, industries such as a corn cob pipe factory, a tomato cannery, shoe factories and clay mining supported the town. Today, the RR Donnelly printing company and Emhart Glass Manufacturing are located there. Owensville is a thriving town and a proud community of more than 2,500 residents.

In closing, I ask all my colleagues to join me in wishing the residents of the City of Owensville congratulations on their centennial anniversary.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 10TH AN-
NIVERSARY OF THE DISASTER
AT THE JIM WALTER RE-
SOURCES #5 MINE

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2011

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, ten years ago, on September 23, 2001, 13 brave miners lost their lives in two mine explosions in the depths of the Jim Walter Resources, JWR, #5 Mine, which is located approximately two miles from Brookwood, Alabama.

This mine is located in the deepest and most gas laden coal mine seam in the United States, some 2,100 feet below ground. The miners are represented by the United Mine Worker of America, who conducted a thorough investigation and report on this tragedy.

Four miners were building wooden cribs to fix a badly supported mine roof, when the roof collapsed nearby. Shortly thereafter, there was an explosion that injured these four miners. The roof fall occurred on top of a large six-ton, 64-volt scoop battery that was suspended from the mine roof in a track entry. The battery was connected to a battery charger, according to reports. The first explosion was likely caused by the scoop battery, which was damaged and short circuited, igniting methane that had become trapped due to the lack of adequate ventilation caused by the roof fall.

A chaotic emergency response followed and miners tried to assist those who were injured. About 55 minutes after the first explosion, a larger and more violent explosion rocked throughout the mine, and 13 miners were killed—12 rescuers and one miner who had been hurt and unable to move after the initial explosion. The second explosion was, according to reports, fueled by methane and float coal dust. This explosion took the lives of Gaston Adams, Jr., Raymond Ashworth, Nelson Banks, David Blevins, Clarence "Bit"

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Boyd, Wendell Johnson, John Knox, Dennis Mobley, Charles Nail, Joe Riggs, Charles Smith, Joe Sorah and Terry Stewart.

Rescue and recovery was difficult, since the ventilation controls were destroyed. It took seven weeks—until early November—until teams could recover 12 of the victims. It took eight months to rehabilitate the mine so it was safe enough to resume operations.

At the time of this mine disaster, the Nation's attention was focused the events of 9/11, which had occurred only two weeks earlier. As such, no mining law changes followed.

Five years after the JWR #5 disaster, a series of tragedies at Sago, Aracoma Alma and Darby spurred enactment of the MINER Act. The law largely focused on improvements to post-accident emergency response, and mandates for operators to provide tracking, communications and shelters. Had Congress acted in a timely way after the JWR #5 disaster, it is likely that other miners' lives could have been saved.

Important mine law changes have yet to be mandated by Congress from the JWR #5 disaster that should be acted upon.

For example, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health has developed coal dust explosivity meters, which can give miners real time information on the presence of explosive coal dust—a substance ten times as explosive as methane—and can signal whether additional rock dust is needed to prevent mine explosions. The Robert C. Byrd Miner Safety and Health Act, which was introduced in 2010 but was not enacted, mandates that mine operators use coal dust explosivity meters as a way to assure more timely compliance with rock dusting requirements.

Independent investigations of major mine tragedies are needed to assure there is no conflict of interest involving questions about the adequacy of mine safety oversight and the performance of state and federal regulators. The Byrd bill contained a requirement for independent investigations.

Battery chargers, which ventilate explosive gases such as hydrogen, need to be directly vented to the returns in mines so that they cannot ignite fires. Roof control plans need to assure that areas around battery chargers have robust roof support.

As the senior Democratic Member on the Committee on Education and the Workforce, I strongly urge Congress to follow up on the lessons from the JWR #5 mine disaster, as well as the Upper Big Branch Mine disaster, which took the lives of 29 miners on April 5, 2010. Miners' blood should not be spilled in vain. Continued inaction by Congress on matters of the health and safety of our Nation's miners is simply inexcusable.

HONORING THE WORLD WAR II VETERANS PARTICIPATING IN THE QUAD CITIES HONOR FLIGHT

HON. DAVID LOEBSACK

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2011

Mr. LOEBSACK. Mr. Speaker, today I have the great honor of welcoming to our nation's capital 90 Iowa veterans of the Greatest Generation. Accompanied by over 70 volunteer

guardians, these veterans have travelled to Washington, DC to visit the monument that was built in their honor.

For many of these veterans, today will be the first time they have seen the National World War II Memorial. I am deeply honored to have been invited to join them when they see their memorial for the first time and to have the opportunity to personally thank these heroes.

I am proud to have a piece of marble from the quarry that supplied the marble that built the World War II Memorial in my office. Like the memorial that it built, that piece of marble reminds me of the sacrifices of a generation of Americans. When our country was threatened, they rose to defend not just our nation but the freedoms, democracy, and values that make our country the greatest nation on earth. They did so as one people and one country. Their sacrifices and determination in the face of great threats to our way of life are both humbling and inspiring.

The sheer magnitude of what the Greatest Generation accomplished, not just in war but in the peace that followed, continues to inspire us today. They did not seek to be tested both abroad by a war that fundamentally challenged our way of life and at home by the Great Depression and the rebuilding of our economy that followed. But, when called upon to do so, they defended and then rebuilt our nation to make it even stronger. Their patriotism, service, and great sacrifice not only defined their generation—they stand as a testament to the fortitude of our nation.

I am tremendously proud to welcome the Quad City Honor Flight and Iowa's veterans of the Second World War to our nation's capital today. On behalf of every Iowan I represent, I thank them for their service to our country.

SMAST PROFESSOR HONORED FOR FISHERIES WORK

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2011

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the latest award recognizing the distinguished career of Dr. Brian Rothschild of the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth School for Marine Science and Technology.

Dr. Brian Rothschild was recently presented the prestigious Oscar Elton Sette Award for "sustained excellence in marine fishery biology" by the American Fisheries Society. For many years, it has been my privilege to work closely with Dr. Rothschild on numerous issues involving the fishing industry as well as marine science, maritime safety, and ocean studies. This has included discussions on global warming and renewable energy possibilities in the northeast as well as the development of critical partnerships abroad such as that which now exists between the University of the Azores and the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth where he is the Montgomery Charter Professor of Marine Science. He has advised me and my staff on the critical issues that face both fishermen and scientists as these stewards of our oceans work to find that critical balance between sustainable fishing and conservation of fish stocks.

Dr. Rothschild has dedicated himself to public service by working in various government roles that have dealt with both fishery management and oceanography. I submit the following article into the record, which describes how Dr. Rothschild was recently honored by his peers for his important contributions to fishery science. I congratulate him, and thank him for his commitment to our community.

[From SouthCoastToday.com, Sept. 20, 2011]

SMAST PROFESSOR HONORED FOR FISHERIES WORK

(By Don Cuddy)

Dr. Brian Rothschild, a distinguished professor at UMass Dartmouth's School for Marine Science and Technology, has again been honored by his peers in the scientific community.

Rothschild traveled to Seattle earlier this month as this year's recipient of the Oscar Elton Sette Award, presented annually by the American Fisheries Society to an individual who has made "sustained and important contributions to marine fishery biology."

Oscar Elton Sette was a pioneer in the development of fisheries oceanography and is regarded by many fisheries scientists as the father of modern fisheries oceanography in the United States. A National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration research vessel based in Hawaii is named for him.

Rothschild was a friend and colleague of Sette in Honolulu and while Sette was at Stanford University, and the pair co-authored a report on skipjack tuna in 1996.

The American Fisheries Society describes itself as "the world's oldest and largest organization dedicated to strengthening the fisheries profession, advancing fisheries science and conserving fisheries resources." Its first president was elected in 1870.

Rothschild has been working in fisheries for close to 60 years. As director of policy at NOAA, he oversaw the successful implementation of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976.

In 1986, Harvard University Press published his book "Dynamics of Marine Fish Populations." This was the first book to comprehensively address the abundance of fish populations in historical, life-history and modeling contexts, according to professor Changsheng Chen, one of his colleagues at SMAST who put forward the nomination.

Among the major accomplishments credited to Rothschild is his work on the scallop fishery. "His innovative sampling strategy, along with Kevin Stokesbury, for ocean scallops allowed new assessments to be made, allowing the opening of scallop beds and preventing the collapse of the most valuable fishery in the U.S.," Cheng wrote in the nomination letter.

The citation on the award reads: "For sustained excellence in marine fishery biology through research, teaching, administration or a combination of all three."

Rothschild, who left for a global fishery conference in Gdansk, Poland, on Friday, said he felt honored to receive the award.

"I would like to thank all of my colleagues," he said. "It's so great to be working in a field that is so important to so many people."

HONORING CLIFF EVERTS

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2011

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, over the course of many years, I have observed the